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# THE 9 LIVES OF EL GATO

THE CAT



Copy

A Fire Safety Comic Book

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207





Here are some tips for you  
from El Gato and  
The Consumer Product Safety Commission

If your home catches fire... **GET OUT FAST!**

## STAY LOW

- Smoke can kill!
- Crawl on your hands and knees to stay under the smoke.



## FEEL THE DOOR

- If the door feels hot, don't open it.
- Go to a window and yell for help.



## MEET OUTSIDE

- Stay out!
- Have a place to meet.

### HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW...

- Get smoke detectors for early warning.
- Have two exits for each room.
- Choose a place to meet outside.
- Plan your family escape.
- Practice your family escape.



# THE 9 LIVES OF

# EL GATO

## THE CAT

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# EL GATO

## LITTLE BIRD

## EL GATITO



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is an independent regulatory agency charged with reducing unreasonable risks of injury associated with consumer products. CPSC is headed by five Commissioners appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.



1

LIFE



GATO, YOUR BIKE SOUNDS TERRIBLE. IT LOOKS LIKE AN ACCIDENT LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HAPPEN!



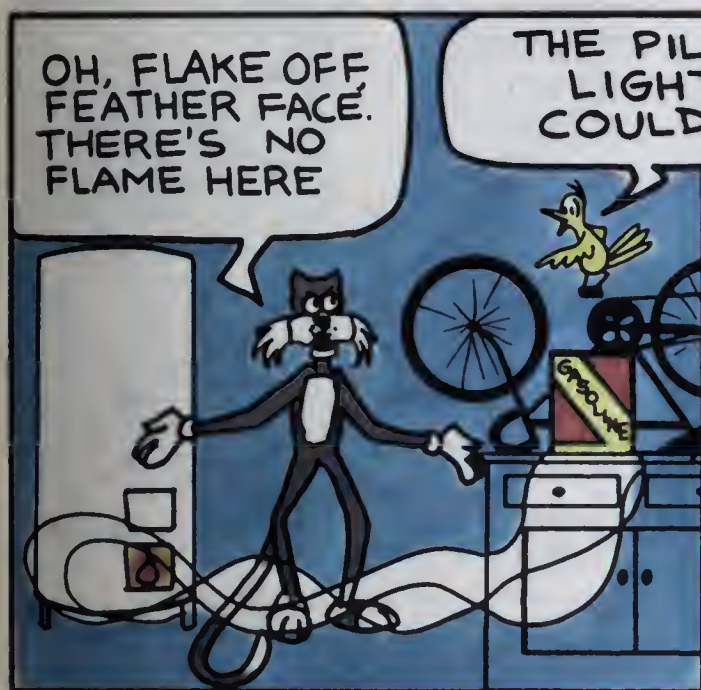
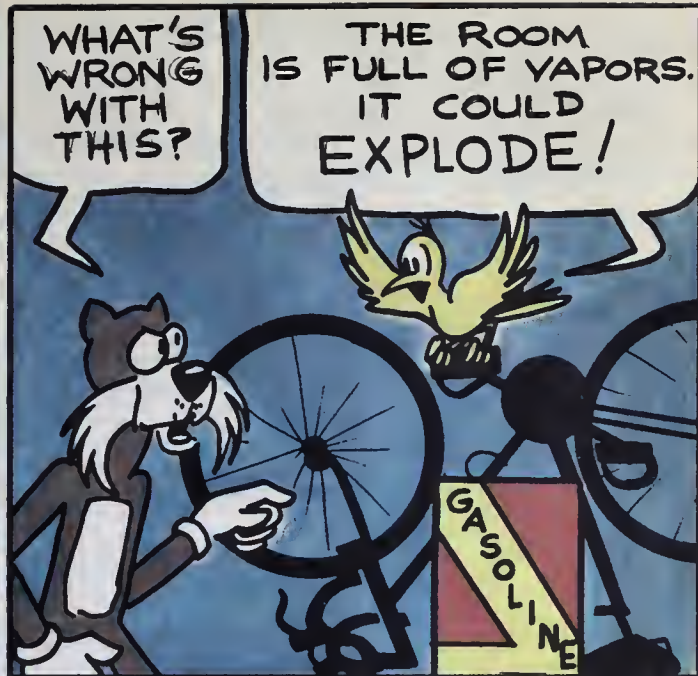
NO. THIS BICYCLE IS IN GREAT SHAPE IT JUST NEEDS TO BE CLEANED UP.



HEY, WHY ARE YOU USING GASOLINE? THAT'S DANGEROUS STUFF!



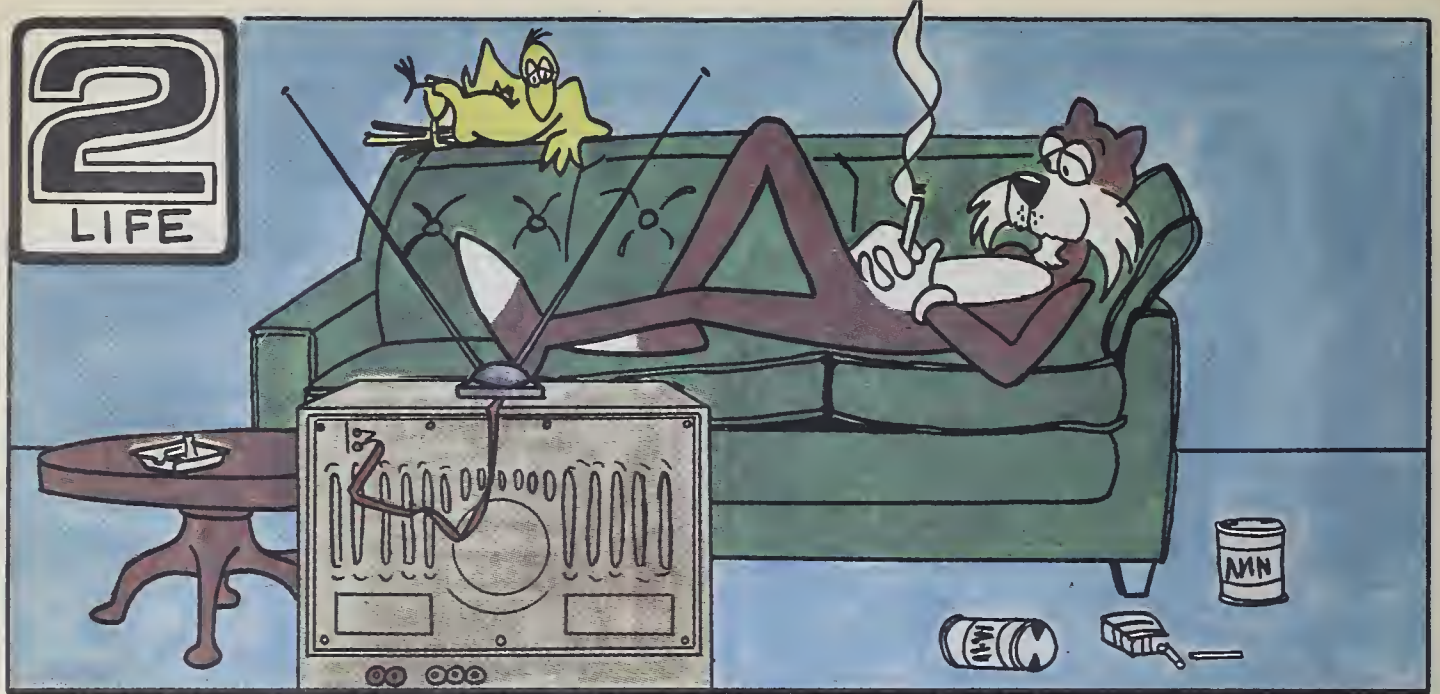




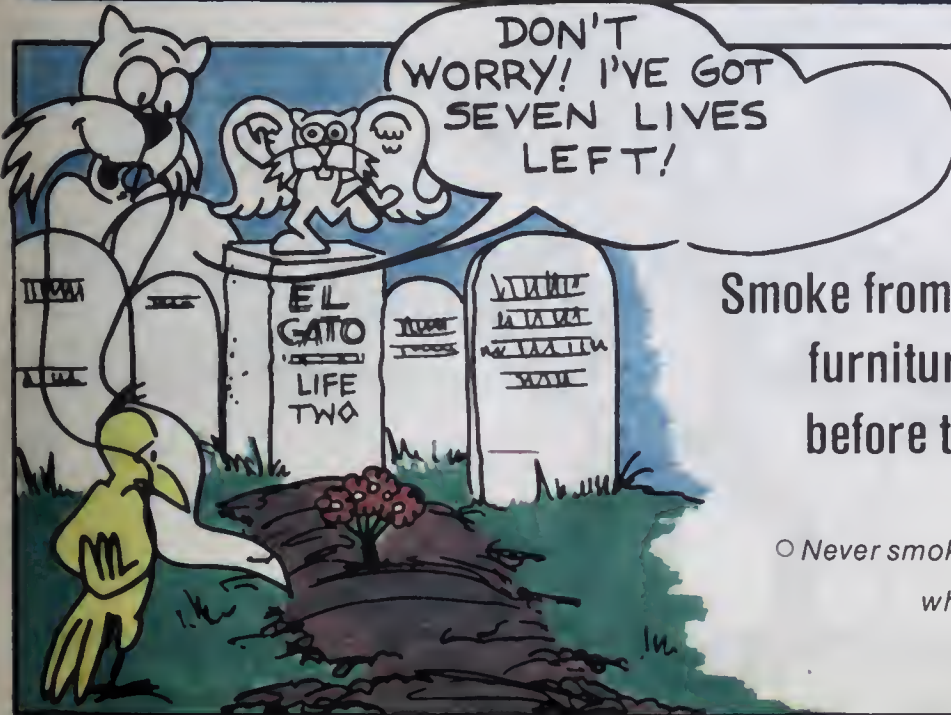
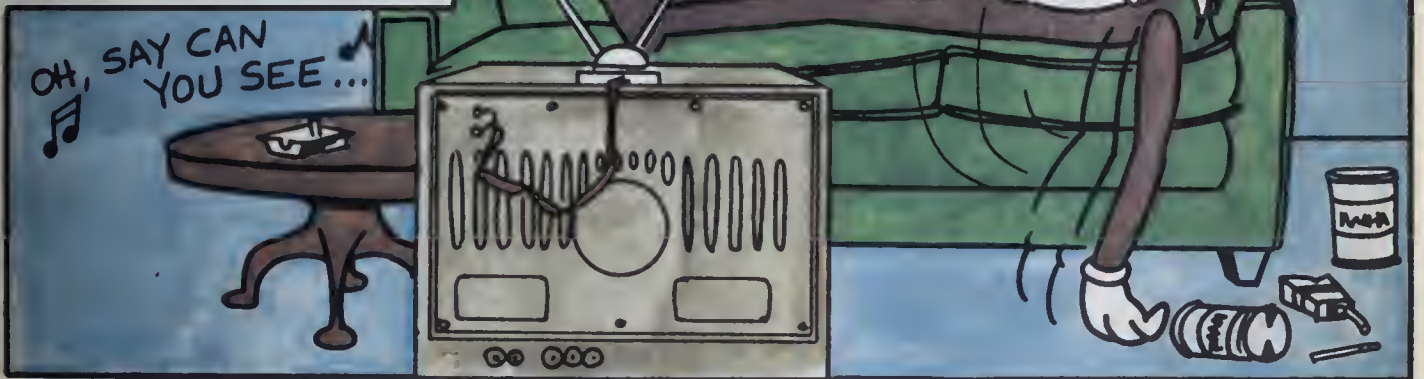
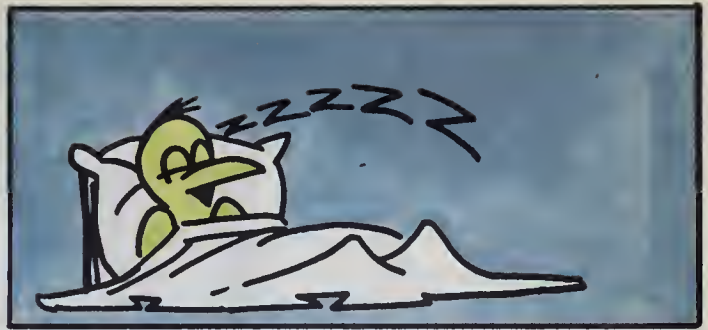
**Gasoline fumes can burn or explode!**

- Never clean anything with gasoline.
- Never use or keep gasoline indoors.





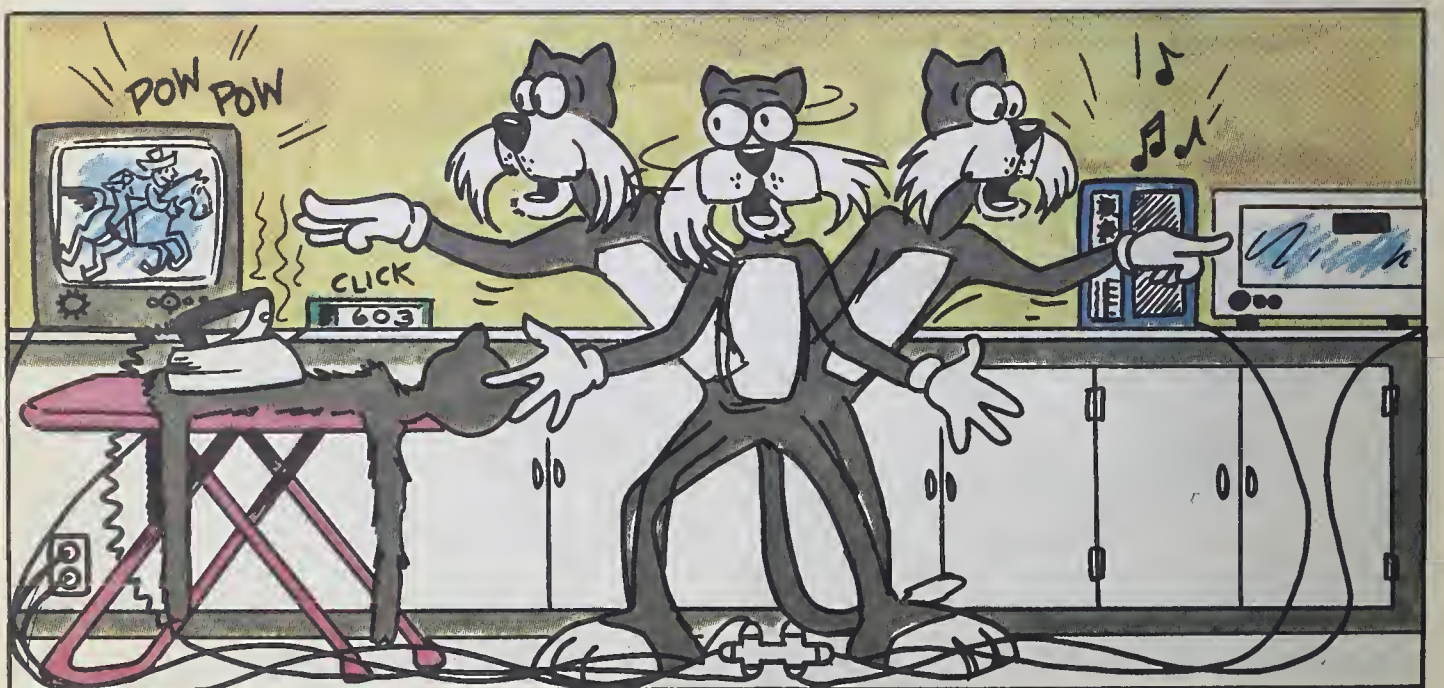




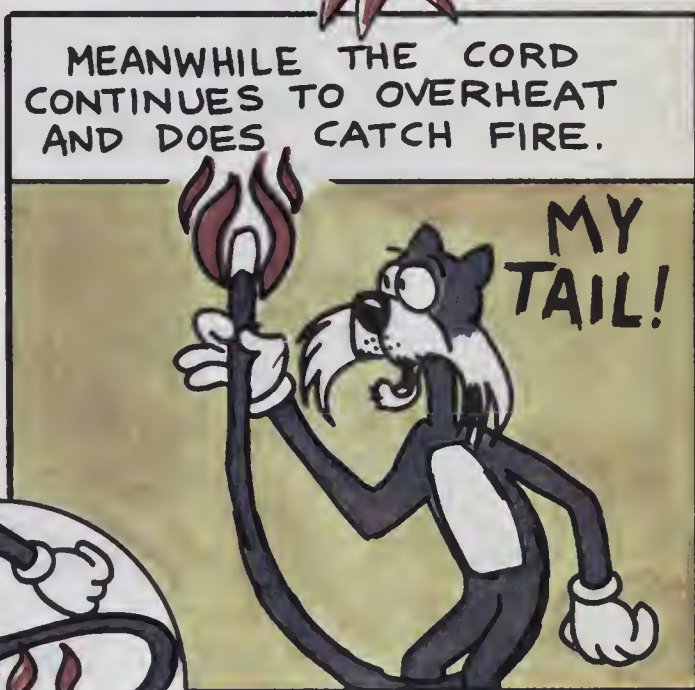
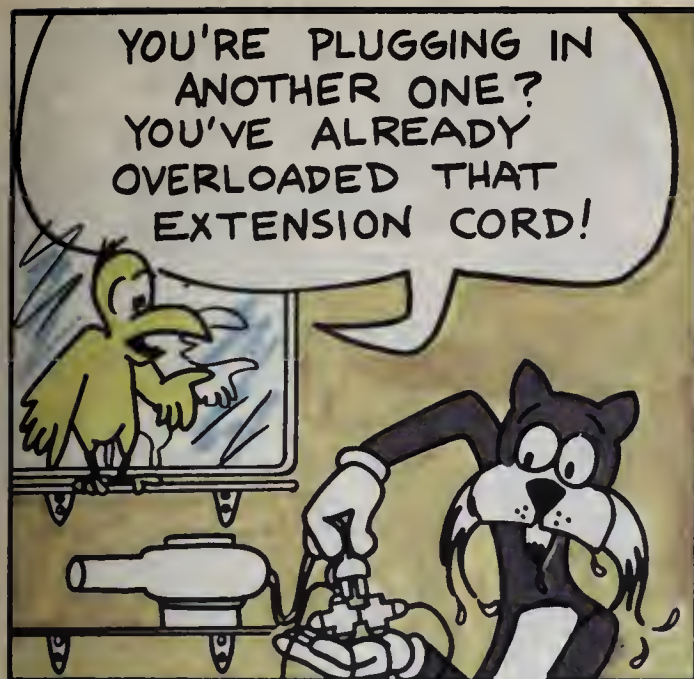
Smoke from an upholstered  
furniture fire can kill you  
before the heat wakes you up!

○ Never smoke around upholstered furniture  
when you are sleepy.









## Extension cords can cause fires!

- Never plug too many things into an extension cord (usually no more than one).
- Don't use worn or damaged extension cords.







BUT WHILE GATO IS IN THE KITCHEN, GATITO FINDS THE MATCHES LEFT ON THE TABLE TOP AND ...



QUICK, ROLL HIM BACK AND FORTH TO PUT THE FIRE OUT!



I DIDN'T EVEN GET ANY ICE CREAM.



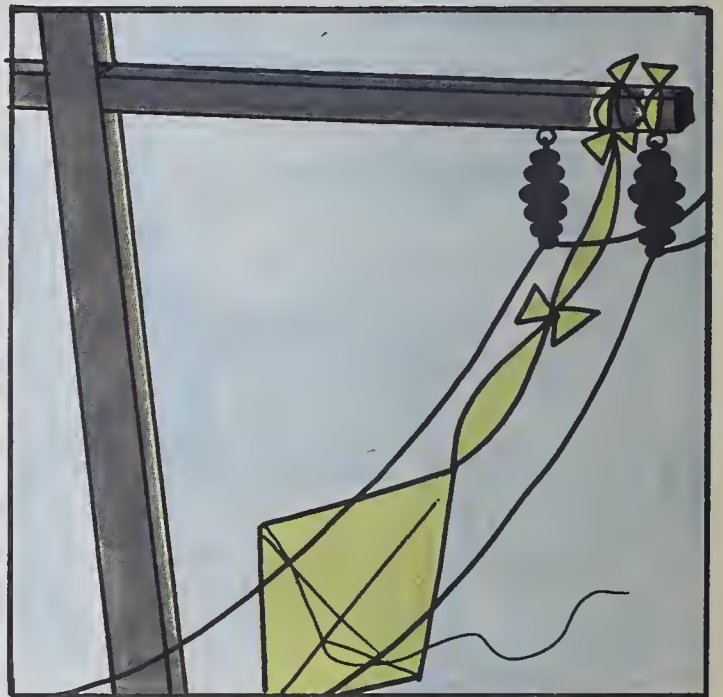
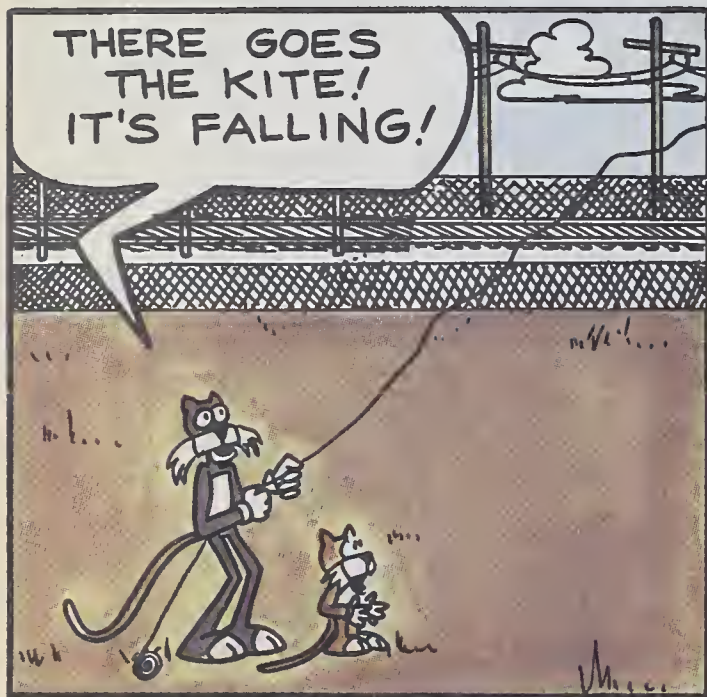
**Children playing with matches or lighters can cause fires!**

○ *Never leave matches or lighters*

*where children can reach them.*

○ *Never leave small children alone.*





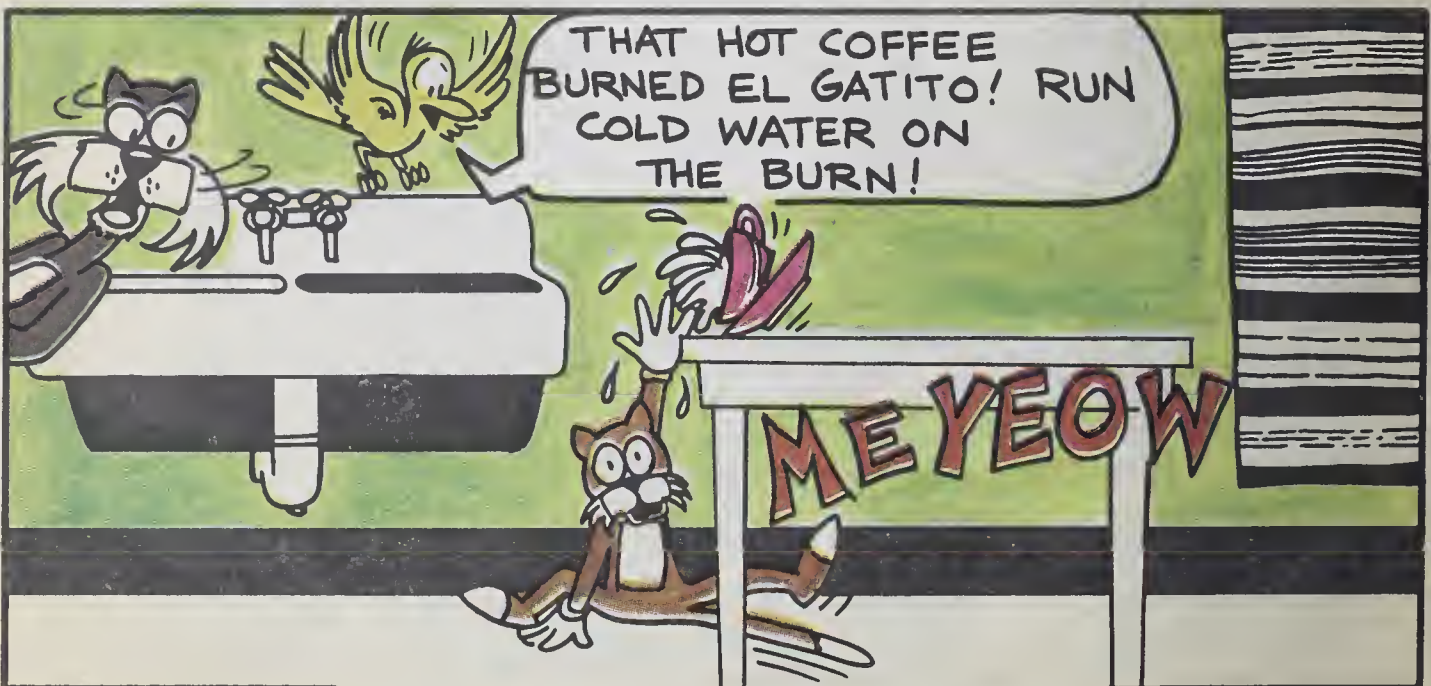
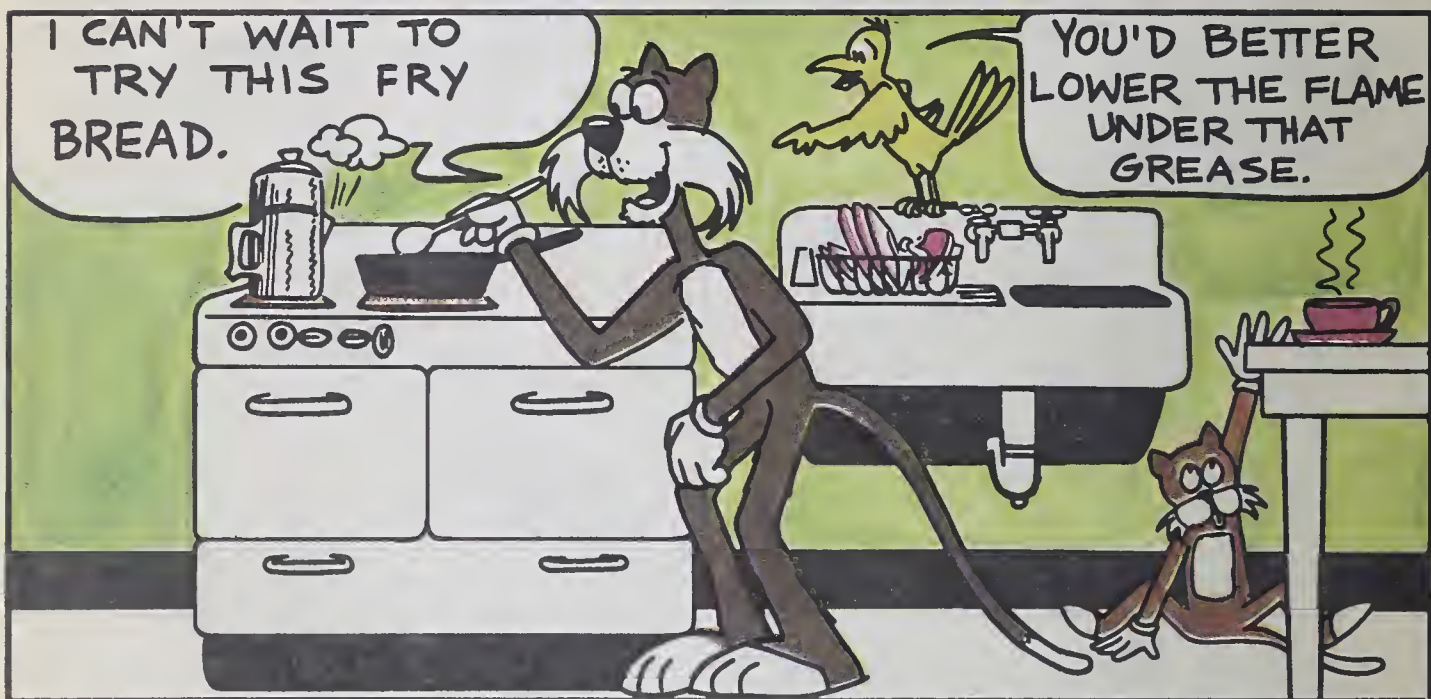
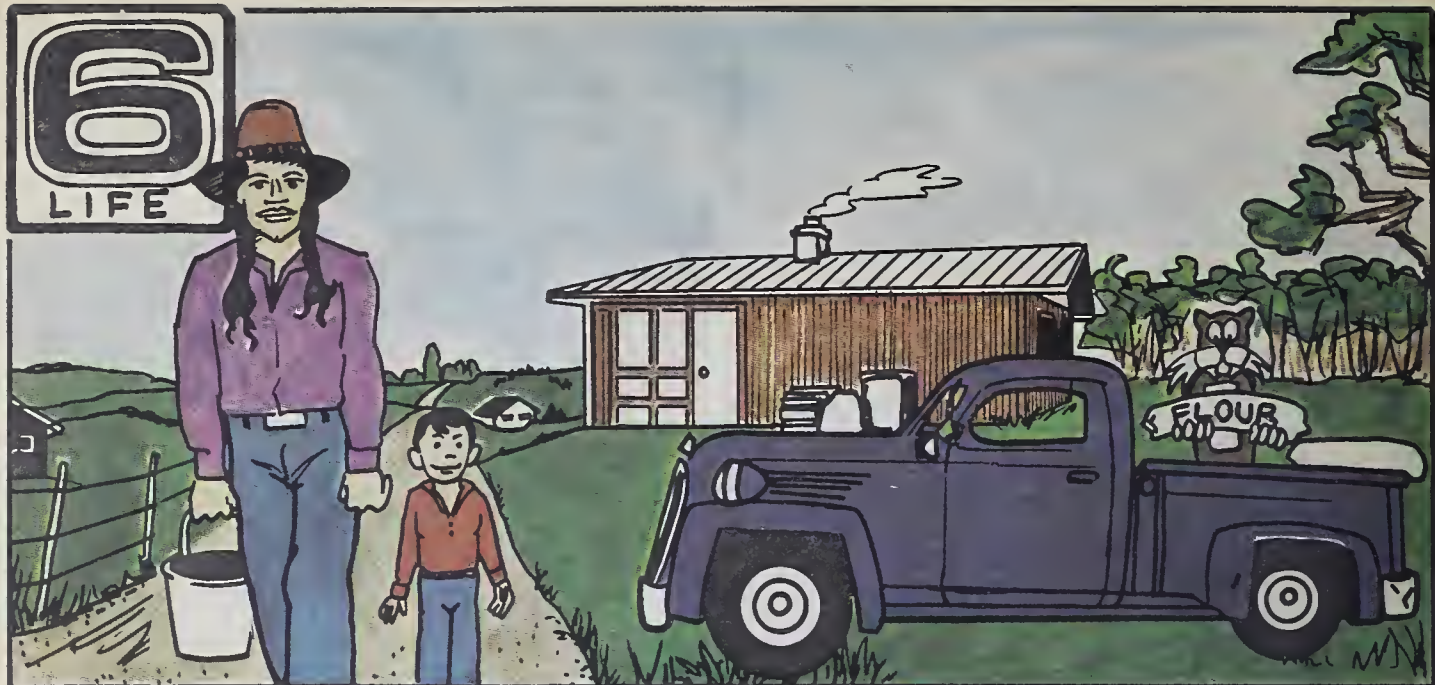




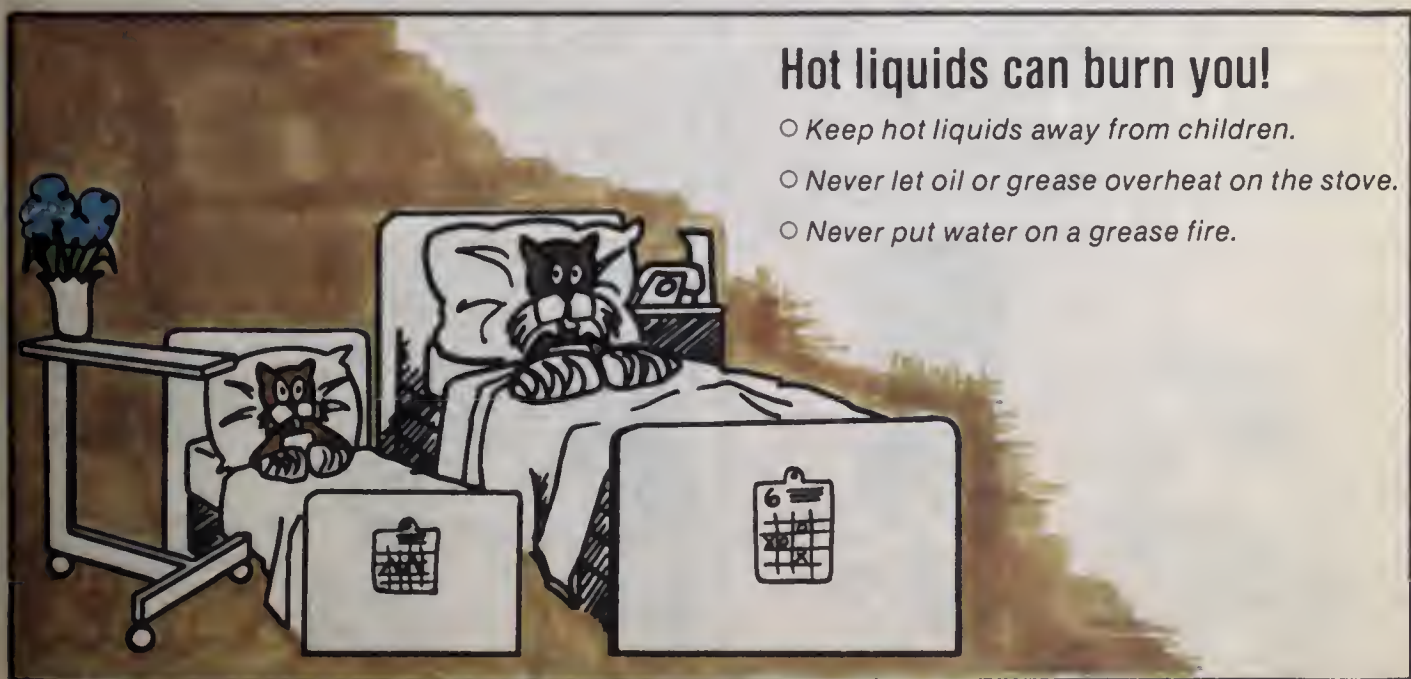
Electricity can jump  
from a wire  
and burn or kill you!

○ Do not climb poles to any wires.

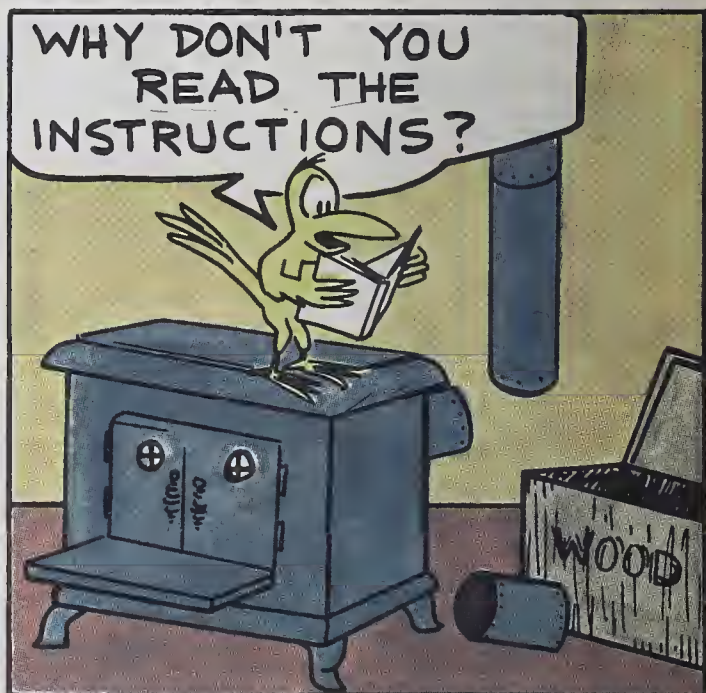
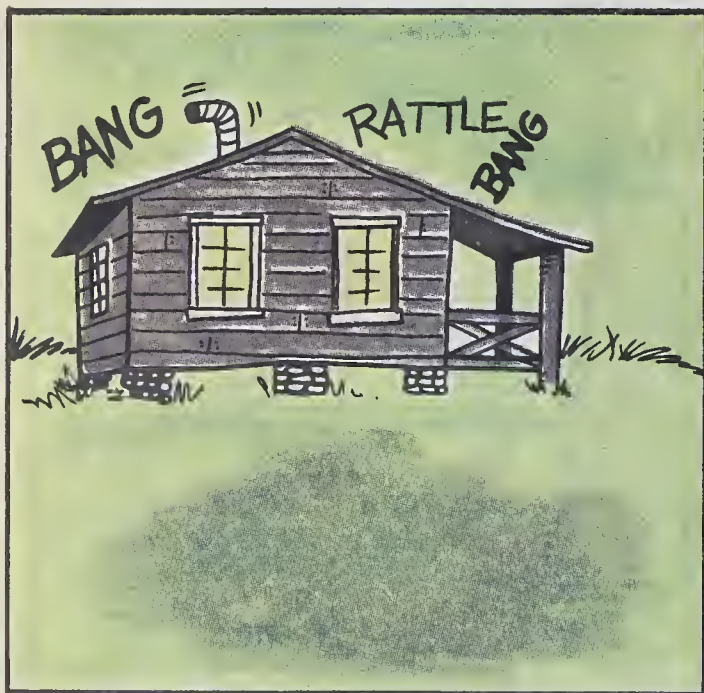
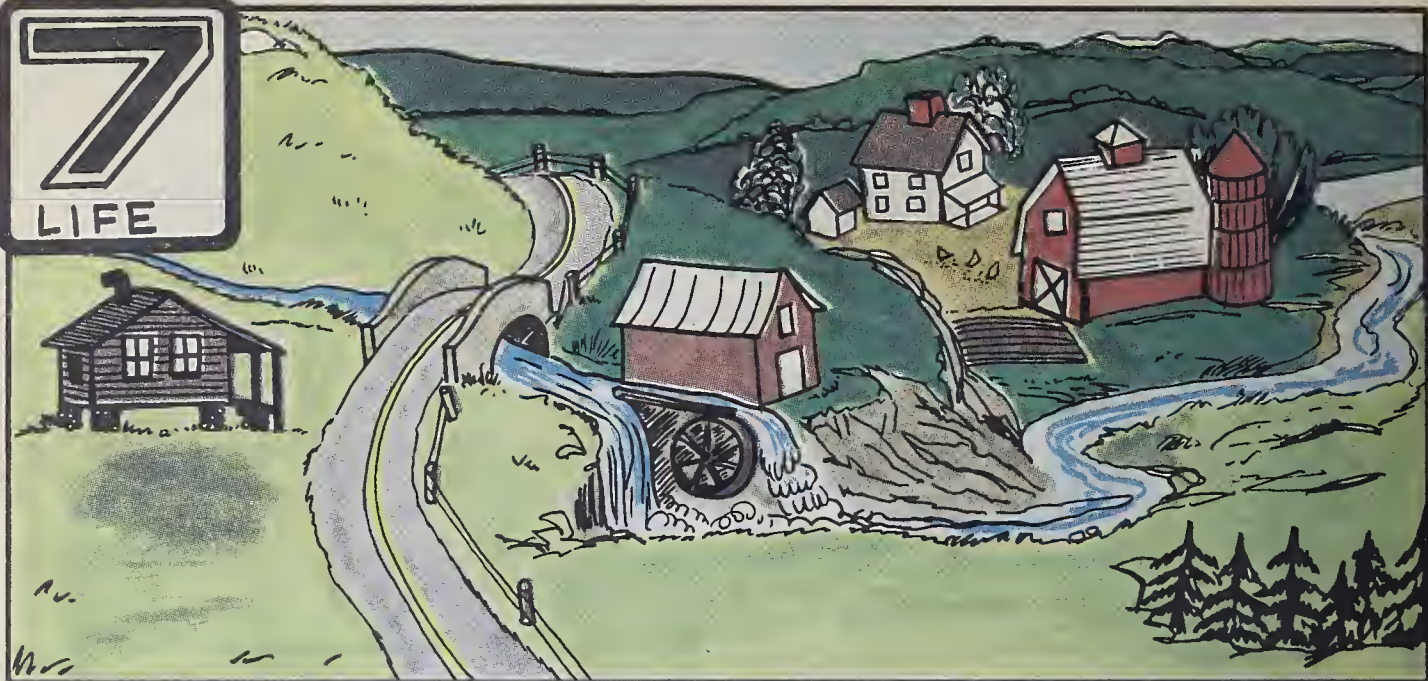




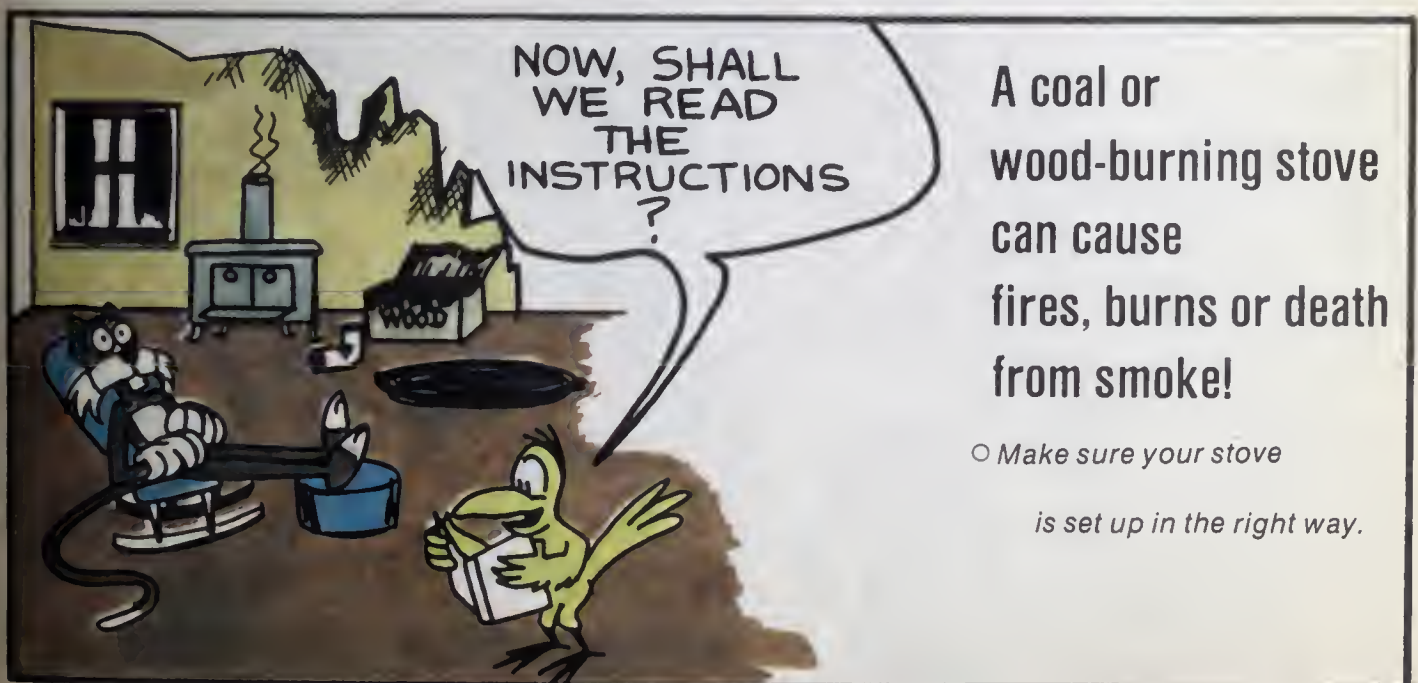










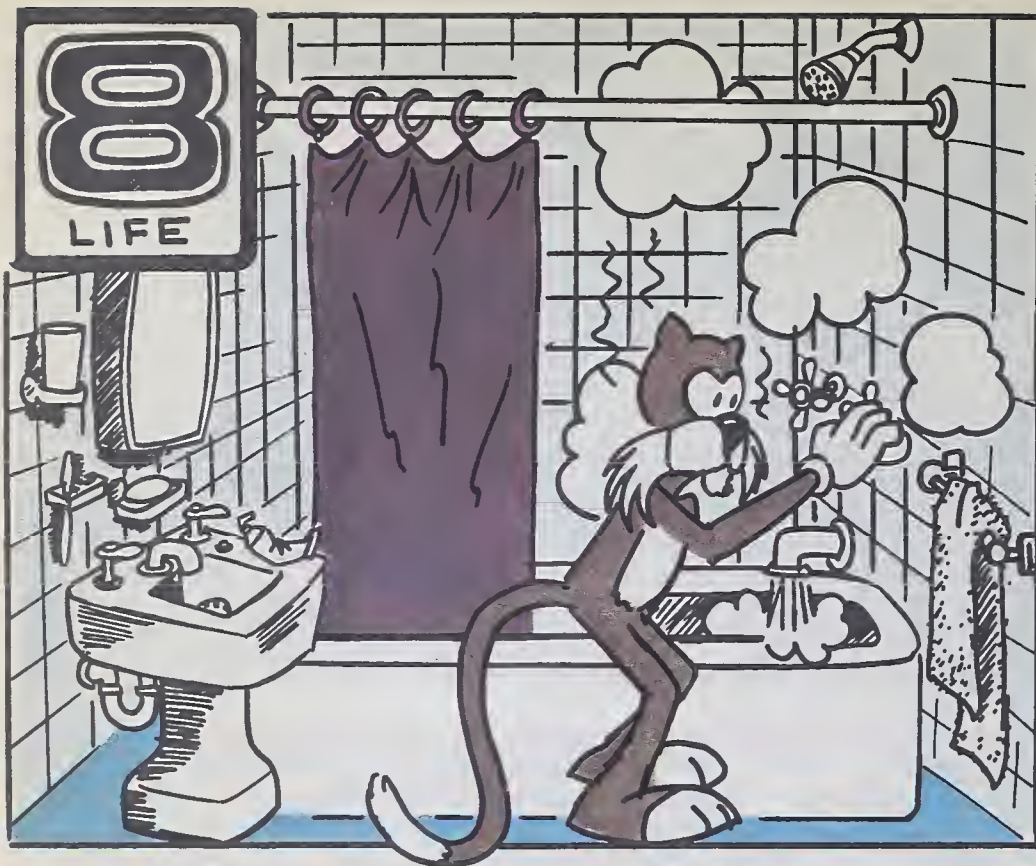


A coal or wood-burning stove can cause fires, burns or death from smoke!

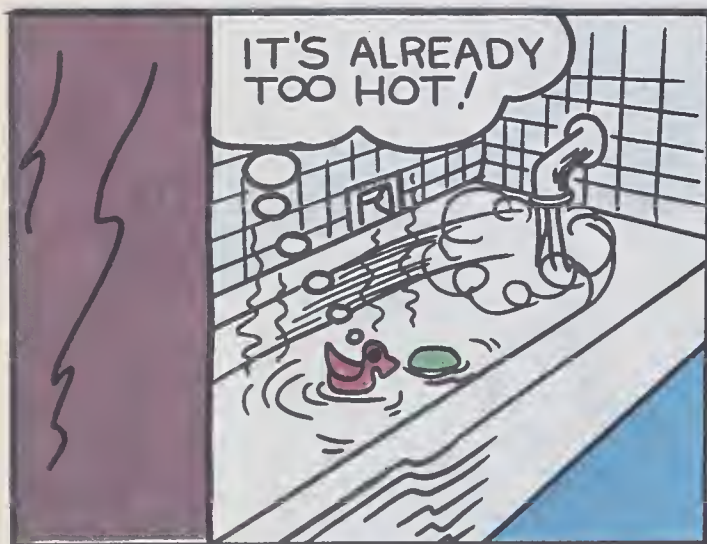
○ Make sure your stove

is set up in the right way.





DON'T MAKE  
THAT TOO  
HOT, GATO.  
SOMEONE'S  
GOT TO SIT  
IN IT.



IT'S ALREADY  
TOO HOT!



THERE'S THE  
PHONE.

RING



HELLO?

WOW

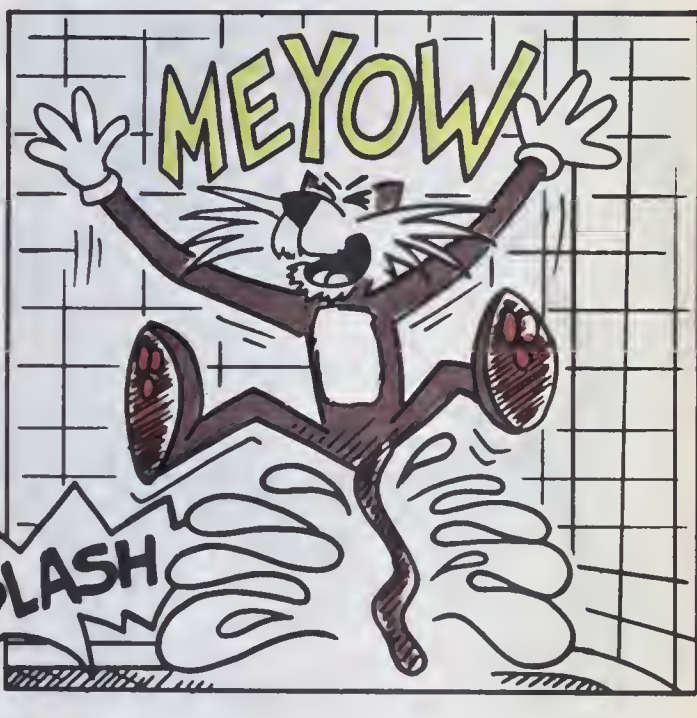
HELLO  
GATO



SIGH

I WANT MY  
RUBBER  
DUCKIE.  
WHERE'S MY  
RUBBER  
DUCKIE?

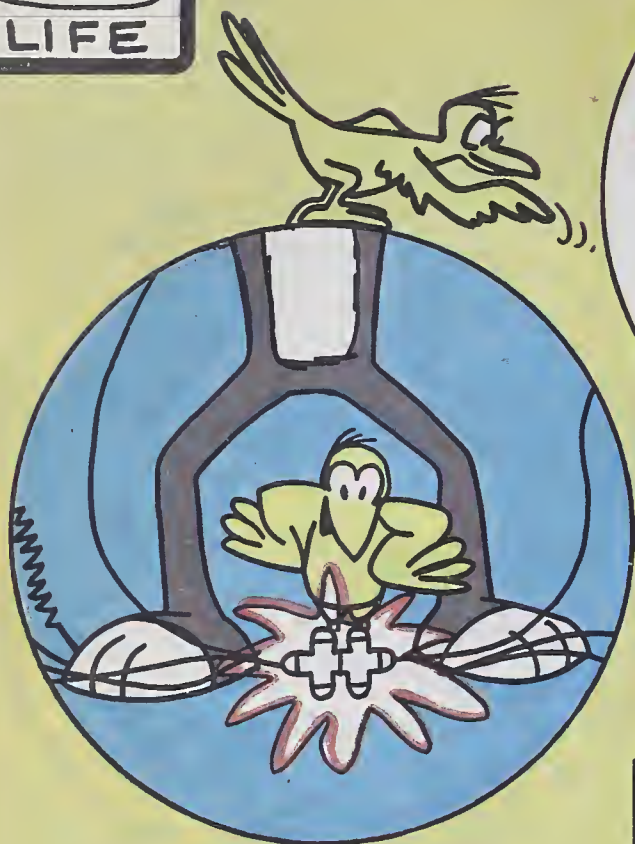




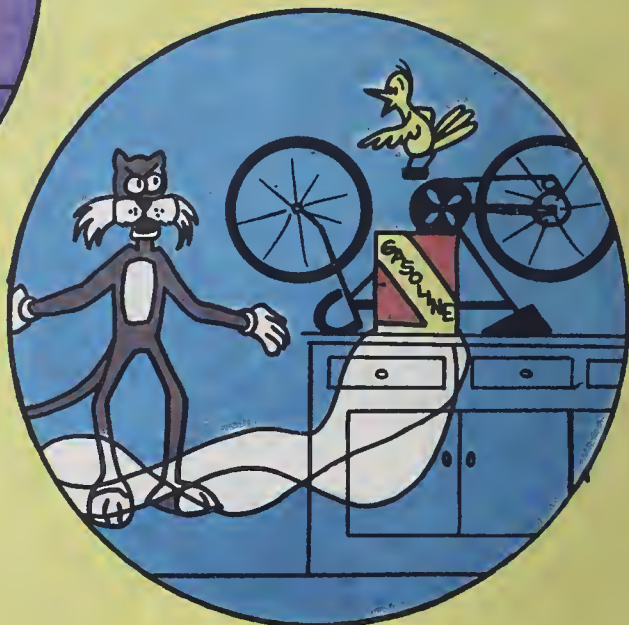
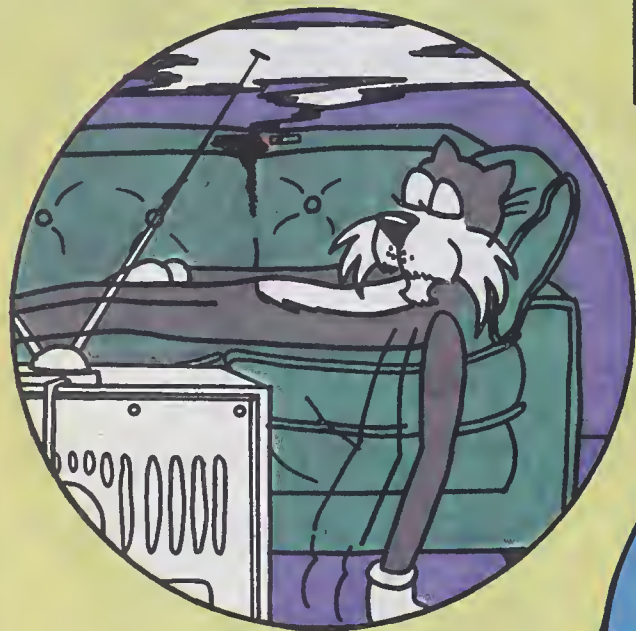
Hot water from the faucet  
can cause serious burns!

○ Never allow small children  
to be alone in the bathroom.

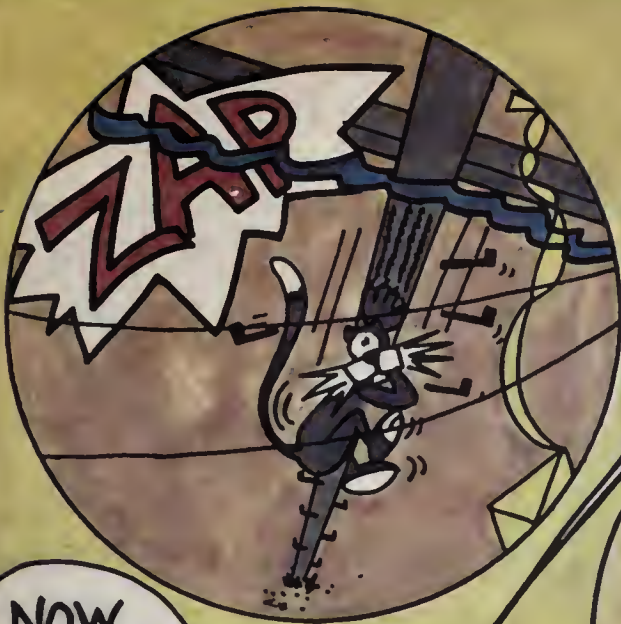




El Gato had nine chances  
at life, you have only one...  
**DON'T BURN IT AWAY!**







I WON'T  
MAKE THESE  
MISTAKES  
AGAIN!

NOW  
I HAVE  
ONE LIFE,  
JUST LIKE  
YOU!



JULY 1980





# Here Are 8 Fire Dangers and How to Avoid Them...

## **DANGER #1** Liquids that can catch fire fast!

Some of these are:

gasoline  
nail polish remover  
kerosene  
furniture polish  
lighter fluid  
rubbing alcohol  
campstove or lantern fuel  
oil-based paints  
paint thinners  
rubber and contact cements  
charcoal lighter fluid  
wood stain

- Keep these liquids away from flames, heat or sparks.
- Never smoke around these liquids.
- Never keep gasoline indoors or in the trunk of a car.

## **DANGER #2** Smoking in bed or around upholstered furniture.

- More people die in bed and upholstery fires than in any other kind of fire.
- Never smoke in bed.
- Don't smoke around upholstered furniture if you are sleepy, or drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine.

## **DANGER #3** Extension cords.

- Don't use worn or damaged extension cords.
- Don't run extension cords under rugs.
- Don't let children chew or suck on extension cords... they can get shocked or burned.

## **DANGER #4** Matches and children.

- Never leave matches or lighters where children can reach them.
- Use only safety or strike-on-cover type matches.

## **DANGER #5** Power lines.

- Stay away from any overhead power lines. Do not climb poles.
- You don't have to touch a power line to get burned.
- Keep things made of metal away from overhead lines... especially ladders or C.B. and TV antennas.

## **DANGER #6** Kitchen burns.

- Don't let children play near a stove.
- Keep hot liquids away from children.
- Don't leave hot oil or grease on the stove.
- Watch what you wear near a stove. Loose sleeves and flowing clothing can catch fire.

## **DANGER #7** Coal or wood-burning stoves.

- Make sure your stove is set up the right way.  
Let an expert do it or follow instructions carefully.
- If your stove is not set up the right way:
  - leaking smoke could kill you.
  - floors or walls could get too hot and catch fire.
- Hot sparks from your stove can set your clothes on fire.
- Keep these things away from your stove:  
upholstered furniture, drapes, curtains, newspapers, wood and other things that can catch fire.

## **DANGER #8** Hot water from faucets.

- Hot water from a faucet can give you serious burns!
- Never let small children be alone in the bathroom.
- Always make sure the bath water is not too hot before you or small children get in.



(TEAR OFF THIS COVER AND PUT IT UP ON YOUR WALL)



If your clothing catches fire...

If you burn yourself...



**DON'T  
RUN...**

**COOL IT!**

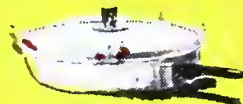
- Cool the burn with cold water.
- Never put grease, butter or ointments on a burn.
- Do not clean the burn.
- Call for medical help.

**DROP  
AND  
ROLL  
BACK  
AND  
FORTH**

...to smother the flames.



If your pan catches fire...



**COVER IT!**

- Turn off the burner.
- Slide the lid over the pan.
- Never use water on a grease fire.



For further information, write:

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety  
Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20207**

To report a product hazard or a product-related injury, write to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207, or call the toll-free hotline: 800-638-CPSC. A teletypewriter for the deaf is available on the following numbers: National 800-638-8270, Maryland only 800-492-8104.

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